

# **BARNWELL COUNTY COUNCIL**

**July 9, 2013**

## **Council Meeting Minutes**

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, the news media was notified & notice was posted 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Barnwell County Council met on July 9, 2013 at 6 pm in Council Chambers. In attendance were Chairman Freddie Houston, Councilman Harold Buckmon, Councilman Jerry Creech, Councilman Lowell Jowers, Councilman David Kenner, Councilman Keith Sloan, Councilman Joe Smith, Administrator Pickens Williams Jr., County Attorney J.D. Mosteller and Clerk to Council Kim Futrell. Also in attendance were Clerk of Court Rhonda McElveen, Sheriff Ed Carroll, Attorney Ray Jones, Kay Maxwell and Jonathan Vickery with the People Sentinel.

### ***Public Hearing 6:00 pm***

Chairman Houston asked if there were any public comments regarding the Ordinance to amend the fee-in-lieu of tax agreement between the County and Horsehead Zinc Recycling, LLC. There were none.

### ***Call to Order / Invocation / Declaration of a Quorum***

Chairman Houston called the meeting to order. Councilman Kenner gave the invocation and a quorum was declared.

### ***Approval of Agenda / Approval of Minutes***

Councilman Jowers moved to approve the agenda. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion and it passed. Councilman Smith moved to approve the June 11<sup>th</sup> and June 20<sup>th</sup> Council meeting minutes. Councilman Buckmon seconded the motion and it passed.

### ***Welcome / Public Comments***

Chairman Houston welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for public comments. There were none.

### ***Updates***

#### **Clerk of Court**

Rhonda McElveen distributed a report for the Clerk of Court's Office. She said there had been an increase of court cases and that court was scheduled 3 weeks out of the month. She said that she would be requesting reimbursement for cleaning up records for the Family Court system and anticipated that the reimbursement would be approximately \$7,000. Once received, she would give it to the County Treasurer to deposit.

#### **Sheriff**

Sheriff Carroll distributed a report for the Sheriff's Office and said that the jail count had increased and was averaging from 72 to 79. The Sheriff said that there had been several complaints from residents in a rural community about a crow gun going off repeatedly at night. The noise code ordinance, which followed State statute, did not include agricultural noise code violations. He asked Council to allow the County Attorney to determine what avenues either he or the residents could take to stop or limit the use of the crow gun. Councilman Creech asked if the municipalities would be participating by adopting a similar noise ordinance. Sheriff Carroll said he knew of two municipalities that were in the process and that it would be a joint effort.

#### **County Administrator**

In the Building Inspections Department, permit fees had increased due to the large expansion of Kronotex. There were also an increased number of commercial inspections which were being handled by the Calhoun County Building Inspector. The Building and Grounds Department had been very busy due to a lack of available trustees to help the two employees in that Department. Because of the rain, they were having to cut grass more frequently. Under Fire Coordinator, text paging was going to be utilized in conjunction with walkie talkies. Text paging could be used in areas where walkie talkie usage is unavailable. The Long Branch Fire Department had been approved as a member of SC Firefighters Association making them eligible for a percentage of the approximately \$50,000 to \$60,000 broker premium tax which is divided among qualified Fire Departments. The Solid Waste Department had shipped out 44 tons of cardboard. Councilman Jowers asked Administrator Williams to check if the employee at the Airport could assist the Building and Grounds Department when possible.

**Committee Reports**Boards and Commissions

Chairman Houston said that at the June 11<sup>th</sup> Council meeting, Annette Felder had been appointed to the SCA Board but should have instead been appointed to the SCRDA Board. Councilman Kenner moved to appoint Ms. Felder to the SCRDA Board. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion and it passed. The following appointments and reappointments were also made.

Re-appoint	Axis I	Branna Williams	District 45	Seat 2
Re-appoint	Axis I	Wanda Platt	District 29	Seat 5
Re-appoint	Axis I	Albert Pressley	District 19	Seat 9
Re-appoint	EDC	Janet Muldrow	District 6	(Resides in District 5)
Re-appoint	Eq. Bd. of Appeals	James McMaster	District 4	
Re-appoint	Fire Commission	Joe Gaines	District 4	Seat 8
Re-appoint	Fire Commission	Bobby Morris	District 4	Seat 6
Re-appoint	Grievance Committee	David Ferguson	District 4	
Appointed	Library Board	Jane Gray Hunter	District 7	
Nominated	Generations Unlimited	Paula Marie Little		

In addition to the appointments Chairman Houston discussed a proposed change on the Boards and Commissions application. Councilman Sloan moved to approve the amended Boards and Commissions application. Councilman Jowers seconded the motion and it passed.

Economic Development Committee

Councilman Jowers said the EDC had met to discuss various projects and a potential 8 acre project retail site. Councilman Creech said he, the EDC and the SCA had met to discuss the possibility of having some type of recreation facility located in Barnwell. There would be another meeting on July 30<sup>th</sup> and he encouraged everyone to attend.

Finance Committee

Councilman Sloan said the Finance Committee had met on June 14<sup>th</sup> and June 20<sup>th</sup> and that the FY '13-'14 Budget had been approved.

Financial Update

Administrator Williams reviewed the yearly expense and revenue reports giving clarification on items that appeared to be overspent but were either financed with the monies showing on a different line item or were C-Fund projects which were going to be reimbursed by the SCDOT. Councilman Sloan requested the Finance Director and Treasurer contact the SC Comptroller General's Office to get the amount of anticipated revenues so that Council would have a reasonable idea of the projected revenues prior to the Audit coming out.

Government, Personnel, Science/Technology/Regulatory Matters, SCRDA and Services Committees

There were no reports for the above Committees.

HealthCare Committee

Councilman Jowers said a Hospital Board meeting was scheduled for July 18<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.

Housing Committee

Councilman Buckmon said the Housing Committee met in the LSCOG Building with representatives from the State and received information on applying for housing grants.

Judicial Committee

Councilman Buckmon said the Judicial Committee met with representatives from the cities and municipalities on June 18<sup>th</sup> concerning the need for a Drug Task Force. Councilman Sloan said the Council's responses from the different municipalities had been positive and that many of the Council's had begun discussing a Task Force in their meetings.

Safety Committee

Councilman Creech moved that plaques be awarded on an annual basis to the each of the families of firemen who died in the line of duty during the year. Councilman Buckmon seconded the motion. Councilman Sloan asked Councilman Creech to amend his motion to include not only the families of firemen but also police officers, law enforcement and EMS personnel. Councilman Creech amended his motion as such. The motion passed.

Transportation Committee

Chairman Creech said a good job was being done and that everything was on schedule.

**Old Business**3<sup>rd</sup> Reading of an Ordinance to Amend the Fee-In-Lieu of Tax Agreement between the County and Horsehead Zinc Recycling, LLC.

Councilman Sloan moved to defer the vote on this Ordinance to after the Executive Session. Councilman Jowers seconded the motion and it passed.

**New Business**Resolution Approving Financing Terms for the Purchase of a 2013 Bobcat

Councilman Sloan moved to approve the above Resolution. Councilman Jowers seconded the motion and it passed.

Councilman Jowers moved to enter into Executive Session for a Pre-contractual Matter and a Personnel Matter. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion and it passed.

**Executive Session**

There was no action taken in Executive Session.

**Open Session**

Councilman Sloan moved that the Ordinance to Amend the Fee-In-Lieu of Tax Agreement between the County and Horsehead Zinc, LLC be modified to read "For the special source revenue credit requested for the year 2011 that the additional special source revenue credit be granted for over and above the 33 percent credit already approved contingent upon the County receiving penalties and interest on the tax that should have been paid after the compilation of the gross tax, less the special source revenue credit of 33 percent and reduced by the special source revenue credit proposed in the agreement of approximately \$202,000 so that the penalty and interest received on the net tax that should have been collected from Horsehead Zinc LLC for the year ending in December 31, 2011." Councilman Buckmon seconded the motion. A roll call vote was requested.

Chairman Houston-Yes  
Councilman Buckmon-Yes  
Councilman Creech-Yes  
Councilman Jowers-Yes

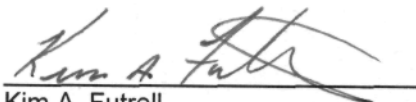
Councilman Kenner-Yes  
Councilman Sloan-Yes  
Councilman Smith-Yes

The motion passed.

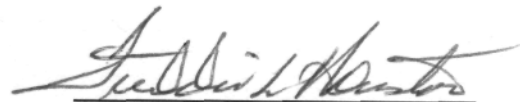
A motion was made to adjourn. The motion was seconded and it passed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Kim A. Futrell  
Clerk to Council



Freddie Houston  
Council Chairman